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Spainhour gets surprise call from AFRL Commander



EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Tech Sgt. Marc Spainhour (above) received an unexpected phone call Sept. 10 from Maj. Gen. Paul D. Nielsen, Commander of the Air Force Research Laboratory. Spainhour, who works at the Munitions Directorate Fuze Experimentation Facility, was told that Nielsen wanted to discuss a tool control issue with MN Director, Col. Mike Ruff. The sergeant reported to Ruff's office prepared to answer some tool control questions. During the speakerphone conversation, Nielsen surprised Spainhour by promoting him under the Air Force Stripes for Exceptional Performers program as Ruff handed him the technical sergeant stripes. "I was completely surprised," Spainhour said. Nielsen then mentioned that it was great that Marc's wife could share the moment with him as she, Marc's supervisor, and his co-workers popped into the office. Marc expressed his gratitude to the general, while everyone gave a round of applause. (Air Force photo by Greg Murry).